(b) if so, what steps have been taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAJNATH SINGH) : (a) and (b) To protect against ill-effect due to imbalanced use of chemical fertilizers and pesticides, the Government propagates Integrated Nutrient Management (INM), which includes soil test based judicious use of chemical fertilizers in conjuction with organic manures and bio-fertilizers. The Government promotes organic farming which emphasizes the use of organic source of nutrients like farmyard manure, compost and bio-fertilizers.

The Government also promotes Integrated Pest Management (IPM), which aims at controlling pests by employing all available alternate pest control methods and techniques such as cultural, mechanical and biological control with emphasis on use of bio-pesticides and pesticides of plant origin like Neem formulations.

Drugs under DPCO

*434. SHRI KHAN GHUFRAN ZAHIDI : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Supreme Court had ordered Government to submit fresh list of drugs to be kept under price control by 15th June, 2003; and

(b) if so, whether Government have submitted the list containing names of drugs?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise in view of reply to (a), as above.

Poultry production

*436. SHRI H. K. JAVARE GOWDA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that chicken and egg production in the country is decreasing alarmingly;

(b) if so, the details of their production during the last three years·

(c) whether it is also a fact that the middlemen who trade in maize, the important feed ingredient, are responsible for the hike in the price of feeds and are responsible for the decline in the growth of chicken industry;

(d) if so, the details of steps Government propose to take to control the feed price; and

(e) the details of steps Government propose to take to promote small scale chicken farmers?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAJNATH SINGH) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. Instead egg and chicken production have been rising steadily during the last three years as evident from the figures below :

S.No.	Egg production (billion numbers)	Chicken meat production (thousand tonnes), FAO estimates
1.	31.77 (Apr' 2000 - Mar' 2001)	972 (Jan-Dec 2000)
2.	34.03 (Apr' 2001-Mar' 2002)	1125 (Jan-Dec 2001)
3.	34.13 (Apr' 2002-Mar' 2003)	1260 (Jan-Dec 2002)

(c) and (d) The Government is not aware of any hike in the prices of poultry feed and the decline of growth in the chicken industry due to intervention of middlemen who trade in maize.

Representations have been received, especially since September, 2002 from several sources who apprehended a shortage of maize due to the drought, and hence requested allotment of wheat from food Corporation of India (FCI), for poultry feed. Three lakh tones of wheat was arranged by FCI for distribution to poultry farmers of the concerned States. The Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying also Approached National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Ltd. (NAFED) to make available 10,000 MT of maize for the poultry farmers. However, no wheat or maize was lifted from FCI and NAFED, implying that the anticipated shortage of poultry feed not occur.

(e) The Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying, during the Tenth five year plan has specifically, for the purpose of encouraging rural poultry development program which aims at benefiting mostly the small scale, landless/marginal farmers and women, launched a new scheme "Assistance to State Poultry Farms" in all the States of the country, on 100 percent basis to the North eastern States and on 80:20, Center to State share basis for other States. Besides, various other Departments/ Ministries like Department of Rural Development, Women and Child Development, NCDC and Tribal Welfare etc. are also extending assistance for poultry development programs, which also include assisting the small-scale farmers by making an effort for dovetailing their activities. The National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) is also refinancing various poultry development projects.

Use of drugs in national games

*437. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA : Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that 22 athletes who had participated in the national Games held at Hyderabad in April, had tested positive for performance enhancing drugs; and

(b) if so, the steps Government propose to take to curb the trend?

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI VIKRAM VERMA) : (a) Yes, Sir. However, the Games were held in December, 2002, not in April, 2002.

(b) Although, it is primarily the responsibility of the Indian Olympic Association and the National Sports Federations to prevent the menace of drugs in sport, the Sport Authority of India (SAI) has taken a lead and made serious efforts to keep away sports persons from using any kind of prohibited substances. During the coaching camps, strict instructions have been issued to the coaches attached with the campers to educate and regularly counsel the players about banned drugs. Apart from this, the Sports medicine doctors at NS NIS, Patiala and other regional centre